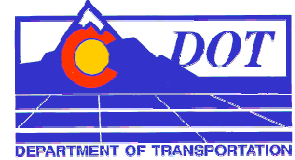


STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Division of Transportation Development
Shumate Building
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Denver, Colorado 80222
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TO: Transportation Commission

FROM: Debra Perkins-Smith, Director, Division of Transportation Development

DATE: December 6, 2012

SUBJECT: Managed Lanes Policy

Purpose: This policy will direct the strong consideration of managed lanes in conducting studies and developing plans for new capacity on state highways.

Action Requested: Approval of Managed Lanes Policy Directive

Background: A Work Group was formed in late 2011 and met monthly through early summer 2012 to discuss adoption of a CDOT policy on Managed Lanes. The Work Group was led by DTD and consisted of the Chief Engineer and representatives from HPTE, RTDs, Staff Branches, Traffic Engineering, Government Relations, ITS and the Public Information Office. The Work Group reviewed information on policies and operating characteristics of Managed Lanes in other states prior to drafting a CDOT policy directive and guidelines.

On July 6, 2012, President Obama signed into law P.L. 112-141, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21). This legislation identifies national goal areas of transportation system reliability and congestion reduction, among others, and requires states to set targets and measure progress toward these goals. The Department recognizes that Managed Lanes are one strategy with the potential to improve transportation system reliability and achieve congestion reduction.

The draft policy directive has been reviewed with the following groups within CDOT: Statewide Plan Committee of the Transportation Commission, Senior Management Team, Region Transportation Directors, Region Planning and Environmental Managers, PE IIIs, Statewide Plan Team, Traffic Engineers, and Maintenance Superintendents. Comments and concerns from these groups have been addressed. Comments external to the Department were received from STAC, North Area Transportation Alliance (attached) and DRCOG staff. Comments from our external stakeholders have been addressed or will be addressed in subsequent implementation guidance. The Department therefore recommends that a policy directive be approved stating that the use of Managed Lanes be considered during planning and development of capacity improvements on state highway facilities in Colorado.

The attached policy directive is therefore being presented to the Transportation Commission for action and approval.